

UNITED STATES FORCES, JAPAN
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
OKINAWA BUREAU
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96239

MOK-6004
6 March 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group, FBIS
FROM: [REDACTED] Chief, Okinawa Bureau, FBIS
SUBJECT: Monthly Report - Okinawa Bureau - February 1986

I. GENERAL

A. The dollar dropped to 179.9 yen on 17 February, with actual bank exchange rates going as low as 177 and 178 yen to the dollar on several days. A shortfall of \$200,000 in Okinawa's largest yen costs, MLC pay and benefits, increased to \$311,000 with the intended retirement in September of longtime communications supervisor [REDACTED] whose service since 1949 entitles him to a substantial lump sum payment. On a personal level, the ever-strengthening yen meant one could dine at nearly any fine restaurant off-base and not worry about reserving a table. The base exchange announced a second price increase for most Japanese goods of 9.9%, on top of the 15% increase in mid-January. A visiting U.S. Embassy economist from Tokyo predicted that the dollar would remain weak at least until after the May economic summit in Tokyo, and that a long-term rate of 170 or 180 yen to the dollar is not unrealistic.

B. Okinawa played an interesting, if mainly backup role to Hong Kong's coverage of the Philippines crisis, relying on traditional shortwave radio, fast Japanese TV coverage and KYODO, as well as intercepts from satellite pass-feed transmissions. On 24 February the bureau watched a London Visnews feed from Manila of the interrupted Marcos press conference and the "first free broadcast from Channel 4" seized by Corazon Aquino's supporters the day before Marcos fled. Chief editor [REDACTED] and ex-monitors, now associate editors [REDACTED] pitched in with [REDACTED] to monitor TV and a Philippines single side-band transmitter, filling and correcting Hong Kong items. The bureau provided telephone alerts and updates to the III Marine Amphibious Force intelligence unit at Camp Courtney on the last days of the Marcos regime.

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C. Okinawa monitored China's first announced long-term communications satellite, STW-2, at 103 East, on 21 February, carrying test transmissions of both news and entertainment. Both video and audio were good quality. Chinese reports claim the new satellite's transmissions are much more powerful than the first Chinese satellite, and can be received with a 6-meter or smaller dish antenna. The MOD PESOS 3-meter dish was set up on a temporary base this month after completion of the new ROSET/Cruising room. Initial tests against the Soviet 140 East and 90 East satellites indicate PESOS could, after substitution of a bureau Low Noise Amplifier (the original was defective) pick up Moscow's Orbita-1 satellite TV from the strong, relatively new 140E; reception from the 90E is poor. We will have to motorize the PESOS azimuth and elevation functions to keep up with the orbital drift of Soviet satellites. The PESOS will probably have to be adjusted every 30-60 minutes to maintain useful TV reception. Bureau engineers are studying the problem.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The second arson attack in a month against vehicles belonging to Japanese Self-Defense Force (JSDF) personnel in Naha occurred on 17 February. Radio reports were promptly monitored from early morning coverage established after the January attack. Six cars and a motorcycle parked at a JSDF apartment complex were destroyed in the arson. There were no injuries, and this time there was no security alert at U.S. bases to complicate bureau operations.

2. Bureau advertisements in two high-circulation Tokyo newspapers for Japanese/Korean monitors have not yielded a single response thus far, suggesting both a lack of candidates and perhaps inadequate pay to compete with Japanese salaries. A recent Okinawa newspaper survey indicated that Okinawan male journalists earn an average of \$1,710 monthly, not counting allowances, and female journalists, \$1,466, salaries well above bureau MLC pay levels. We are considering ways to fill our Japanese/Korean monitor positions.

3. Headquarters approved the transfer of the bureau's only Tagalog/Chinese monitor, [] to Hong Kong as a local hire employee. [] has been in Hong Kong on TDY since early December for crisis coverage of the Philippines.

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4. Okinawa's coverage of the 27th CPSU Congress produced one scoop: Russian Unit chief [] spotted on Moscow TV former Soviet Armed Forces Chief of Staff, Marshal Ogarkov, having a discussion with Fidel Castro during a break in formal congress proceedings. Okinawa also is producing consolidated leadership tapes and will pouch another set of leadership photos after the Congress has confirmed the many new Gorbachev appointees.

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5. A visitor from the U.S. Embassy Tokyo provided timely updates on current topics of interest to U.S. analysts on trade, Japanese investments in the U.S., import/export issues, exchange rates, and the May economic summit in Tokyo.

B. Communications

During several communications outages at Bangkok, Hong Kong and Seoul during February, procedures were clarified so that traffic intended for Okinawa's telex relay is filed to an alternate router, RUADFBA. This ensures that a paper tape is automatically cut and avoids the need for Okinawa operators to repunch telex-relay traffic.

C. Cruising

Checks of Philippines radio behavior produced some 20 cruising messages over a four-day period during 24-hour watches. ROSET observations also confirmed the new unidentified satellite at 70 East first found by Bangkok. At MOD request, Okinawa filed a recapitulation of all satellites of coverage interest observable here, with RF frequencies. A large share of the Okinawa list overlaps Bangkok's satellite listing.

D. Technical

1. New automatic facsimile processor equipment and paper for the printer arrived at month's end; Headquarters' Field Engineering Division is to send a TDYer in mid-March to unpack and install the equipment before checks of Soviet, Chinese and other satellites for facsimile transmissions can begin.

2. The new ROSET/Cruising room is fully operational, requiring only air conditioning installation to complete the facility. The former cruising room is being converted into three offices for the chief monitor, librarian and bureau clerk, which will free several monitoring booths and permit relocation of the Japanese/Korean and Vietnamese units.

3. Okinawa Area Corps of Engineers Captain Rick Sharp and two Japanese engineers visited the bureau this month to check the site for the long-planned microwave relay tower to be built behind the FBIS BOQ/storage area across the road from the operations building. Their request to tap into the bureau's 250 KW emergency generator for 15 KW of power during outages was turned down because we do not have excess generator capacity.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

New logistics officer [] and wife [] arrived Okinawa PCS on 11 February. [] and children departed on 26 February for a Headquarters assignment.

B. Building and Grounds

The bureau on 25 February received the 90% complete plans for replacement houses to be built during the housing recapitalization program. Minor changes were suggested. Plans for rehabilitation of older houses will be delivered in early March. Blueprints will be forwarded to Headquarters for approval shortly. We plan to demolish the ancient Quonset and replace it with a three-bedroom duplex unit this fiscal year.

IV. VISITORS

To The Bureau:

Marine Lt. Col. Bobby Weinberger, public affairs officer at U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, 14 February, for bureau briefing; Robert Innes, economics officer, U.S. Embassy, Tokyo, on 13 February, for orientation and discussions; his wife, Yukiko Innes, a contract employee at the embassy, on 14 February, for orientation; [] of ESG/ADD, while on private travel to Okinawa to visit wife [] Capt. Rick Sharp, Okinawa Area Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on 27 February, for discussions on the planned microwave tower construction.

From the Bureau:

[] and husband [] to Hong Kong Bureau, 28 February, incidental to private travel.

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The Chinese Lunar New Year celebration sponsored by the bureau's Chinese community was held on 8 February in the FBIS community room, with a groaning table laden with exotic Chinese dishes representing nearly every region of China, desserts contributed by American and other families, and musical entertainment by [] and others. Some 40 wives of the Kadena Officers Wives Club visited the bureau in two groups on 12 and 13 February for a briefing, tour, and coffee and cake provided by FBIS staff wives. The visits were part of a continuing KOWC orientation visit program to all major U.S. military facilities on Okinawa.

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OKINAWA BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

| | |
|---|---------|
| TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: | 987,420 |
| TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: | 398,170 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: | 2,597 |

| | BROAD- CASTS | PRESS AGENCIES | PUBLI- CATIONS |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week) | 18,920 min. | 40,040 min. | 175.79 issues |

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:

CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh SPK in
English

1,320

CHINA

Beijing International Service to East and South Africa in
English

Beijing International Service to North America in
English

310

Beijing International Service in
Japanese

60

Beijing International Service in
Mandarin

Beijing to Taiwan in
Mandarin

4,810

Beijing to the USSR in
Russian

3,710

Beijing to Vietnam in
Vietnamese

870

Beijing Domestic Service in
Mandarin

10,910

Fuzhou Fujian Provincial Service in
Mandarin

3,320

Hangzhou Zhejiang Provincial Service in
Mandarin

8,170

Hefei Anhui Provincial Service in
Mandarin

5,720

Nanchang Jiangxi Provincial Service in
Mandarin

8,420

Nanjing Jiangsu Provincial Service in
Mandarin

12,470

Shanghai City Service in
Mandarin

6,580

Miscellaneous

Editorial Reports

250

| BROAD- CASTS | PRESS AGENCIES | PUBLI- CATIONS |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|

| | | |
|---|---------|-------|
| Beijing XINHUA in English | 398,520 | |
| Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service in Chinese | 111,490 | |
| Beijing BEIJING REVIEW in English | | 3,520 |
| Fuzhou FUJIAN RIBAO in Chinese | | 8,380 |
| Hefei ANHUI RIBAO in Chinese | | 2,560 |
| Hangzhou ZHEJIANG RIBAO in Chinese | | 1,220 |
| Nanjing XINHUA RIBAO in Chinese | | 490 |
| Shanghai JEIFANG RIBAO in Chinese | | 8,530 |
| Shanghai WEN HUI BAO in Chinese | | 1,130 |

CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Ba Yi Radio to China in
Mandarin

340

JAPAN

| | | |
|---|-------|---------|
| Naha Radio NHK in Japanese Japanese | 210 | |
| Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese | 9,650 | |
| Tokyo JPS in English | | 1,500 |
| Tokyo KYODO in English | | 141,190 |
| Tokyo JIJI in English | | 11,550 |
| Tokyo AKAHATA in Japanese | | 1,460 |
| Tokyo ASAHI SHIMBUN in Japanese | | 4,840 |
| Tokyo ASAHI EVENING NEWS in English | | 14,110 |
| Tokyo JAPAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English | | 2,210 |
| Tokyo MAINICHI DAILY NEWS in English | | 7,880 |

| | BROAD- CASTS | PRESS AGENCIES | PUBLI- CATIONS |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|--|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|

| | | | |
|--|-------|--------|--------|
| Tokyo MAINICHI SHIMBUN in Japanese | | | 2,800 |
| Tokyo NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japanese | | | 12,620 |
| Tokyo SANKEI SHIMBUN in Japanese | | | 1,770 |
| Tokyo THE DAILY YOMIURI in English | | | 10,870 |
| Tokyo THE JAPAN TIMES in English | | | 12,360 |
| Tokyo TOKYO SHIMBUN in Japanese | | | --- |
| Tokyo YOMIURI SHIMBUN in Japanese | | | 3,490 |
| Naha OKINAWA TIMES in Japanese | | | 260 |
| Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese | | | --- |
| KOREA (NORTH) Pyongyang KCNA in English | | 250 | |
| MONGOLIA Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English | | 5,320 | |
| Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian | | 40,200 | |
| TAIWAN Taipei International Service in English | 2,600 | | |
| Taipei Domestic Service in Mandarin | 650 | | |
| Taipei CNA in English | | 18,590 | |
| Taipei CHINA POST in English | | | 5,610 |
| Taipei CHING CHI JIH PAO in Chinese | | | --- |
| Taipei CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO in Chinese | | | 800 |
| Taipei CHUNG YANG JIH PAO in Chinese | | | --- |
| Taipei LIEN HO PAO in Chinese | | | 800 |
| Taipei TZU LI WAN PAO in Chinese | | | --- |

| BROAD- CASTS | PRESS AGENCIES | PUBLI- CATIONS |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
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UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

| | | |
|--|-------|--|
| Moscow to Japan in Japanese | 6,570 | |
| Moscow to Southeast Asia in Mandarin | --- | |
| Moscow to China in Mandarin | 3,650 | |
| Moscow to Vietnam in Vietnamese | 1,040 | |
| Moscow Radio Peace and Progress to China in Mandarin | 1,050 | |
| Moscow Radio Peace and Progress to Southeast Asia in Mandarin | 170 | |
| Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian | 7,630 | |

VIETNAM

| | | |
|--|-------|--------|
| Hanoi International Service in Mandarin | 650 | |
| Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese | 8,850 | |
| Hanoi VNA in English | | 41,120 |
| Hanoi VNA in French | | --- |
| Hanoi VNA in Vietnamese | | --- |
| Ho Chi Minh City VNA in Vietnamese | | --- |